

## **County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs**

Josh Candelaria Governmental & Legislative Affairs Director

February 14, 2017

The Honorable James Gallagher California State Assembly State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: AB 255 (Gallagher) – As introduced January 31, 201'7 – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblyman Gallagher:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 255, which would help ensure that Sexually Violent Predators who are conditionally released by the Department of State Hospitals are placed in counties where they have community ties.

Current law allows a court to place individuals outside the county of domicile under "extraordinary circumstances". If extraordinary circumstances require placement outside the county of domicile, AB 255 would require a court to consider where the Sexually Violent Predator was living prior to being arrested when determining their county of domicile, which under current law is the first option for county of conditional release, and would require the court to place the individual in a county where they have familial, residential, or employment connections.

Sexually Violent Predators pose an unacceptable threat to communities where they are placed, and that threat is only more profound if they are placed in counties where they have no ties. Counties should not be required to endanger their citizens by accepting these predators from other areas.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 255. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or <a href="mailto:icandelaria@sbcounty.gov">icandelaria@sbcounty.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD First District Supervisor

Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation